

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1776

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1570

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GY, BR

SUBJECT: FONMIN ALLEGES MOVE BY AMERINDIANS TO BRAZIL PART OF
ANTI-GUYANESE CAMPAIGN

1. FONMIN FRED WILLS MORNING SEPT 19 TOLD ME GUYANA NOW HAVING
"PROBLEMS WITH BRAZIL" IN BORDER AREA. STATED THAT FORMER LEADER
OF RUPUNUNI REBELLION, HART, NOW RESIDENT BRAZIL AND HAS ORGANIZED
CAMPAIGN DENOUNCING GUYANA AS RADICAL SOCIALIST COUNTRY ENDANGERING
BRAZIL. WILLS MENTIONED THAT CAMPAIGN, ASIDE FROM DAMAGING GUYANA
IN FOREIGN PRESS, WAS APPARENTLY MOTIVATING FACTOR IN INDUCING
SEVERAL

HUNDRED WAI WAI INDIANS TO CROSS BORDER TO BRAZIL IN SOUTHERN RUPU-
NUNI AREA, ALLEGING PERSECUTION BY GUYANESE AUTHORITIES.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. AP ARTICLE DATELINED BRASILIA SEPT 13, NOT
RPT NOT CARRIED IN GUYANA PRESS, STATED THAT ABOUT 300 WAI WAI HAD
MIGRATED TO BRAZIL IN TWO GROUPS BECAUSE "THEY DID NOT FEEL WELL
IN GUYANA AND HAD KNOWLEDGE THT IN OUR COUNTRY THERE WAS A GOVT
AGENCY THAT GIVES ALL ASSISTANCE TO TRIBAL GROUPS". BRASILIA FUNIA
SPOKESMAN RECORDED AS SAYING INDIANS WERE IN BAD HEALTH WITH MAJORI-
TY SUFFERING FROM MALARIA AND THAT NEWCOMERS REPORTED MORE
INDIANS PREPARING TO MOVE FROM GUYANA TO BRAZIL.

3. COMMENT: WAI WAI RELATIVELY PRIMITIVE TRIBE INHABITING SOUTH-
WESTERN CORNER OF GUYANA AND ADJACENT AREA OF BRAZIL, REPORTED
TRADITIONALLY MOBILE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. END UNCLASSIFIED.
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MATTHEWS

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NNN

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